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SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1913.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Both Democrats and Republicans are endeavoring to score political advantage from the lobby investigation. It is incumbent upon the former to show that the selfish and sordid interests are working against the betterment of conditions for the common people. The Republicans insist that manufacturers are simply endeavoring to save themselves from destruction.

It was a shrewd move on the part of the President to utter public denunciation of "the insidious lobby." It pleases the rural citizen immensely to think that he has a President who will stand upon the ramparts and shout defiance to the men who go about like thieves in the night, corrupting innocent statesmen. It always pays to protest against wickedness in Washington. There is a sentiment out in the country, due to sensation-mongers, that Washington is a seething mass of corruption—that it is peopled by foreign spies, who worm into our national secrets, by men and women who lay pitfalls for the unsuspecting and whose chief occupation is plundering the government. When the President himself talks about a lobby the far-away citizen pats himself complacently upon the back because the stories of misdoing are thus confirmed. Even after an investigation showed that the charge was untounded, the evil would not be undone. People refuse to believe that the probe was really applied. They want to imagine the worst and so they refuse to believe that the corruptionist is not stalking abroad.

There is another phase to be considered. A direct and positive statement, dramatically uttered by a President of the United States, is dashed instantly to every corner of the country and finds a lodgment in the public mind, which is difficult to remove. Theodore Roosevelt utilized this fact to perfection. Explanations and denials travel slowly. In the meantime, the original statement gains more and more publicity, and, whether true or not, is sure to find a sufficient number of believers to give it weight. History will repeat itself in the present instance. By the use of Rooseveltian tactics, by the employment of spectacular utterance, and by taking the offensive, thus putting the other side on the defensive, President Wilson has scored. The Senate has now got to vote for free sugar and free wool, or else be open to the charge of yielding to insidious influence. Anybody who thinks that President Wilson does not know how to play the political game might just as well change his mind.

What the Investigation Will Show.

The charge of the President was that extraordinary exertions were being made by a lobby in Washington to secure certain alterations in the tariff bill; that this lobby was numerous, industrious, and insidious; that it filled the newspapers with paid advertisements; that it was spending money without limit in order to create an appearance of antagonistic public opinion, and that the whole movement was an effort to overcome the interests of the people for private profit.

A certain portion of this charge is undoubtedly true. In the most public manner, by paid advertisements in the newspapers, the persons interested in the preservation of two great industries, the raising of sugar cane and sugar beets, and who had been denied a hearing by the Senate Finance Committee, sought to present their side of the case to the American people. The real gravamen of the situation, an insinuation that a limitless amount of money was being corruptly used, will not, however, be sustained. There has not yet been, and there is not likely to be, a scintilla of evidence to give even a semblance of truth to the assertion. The impression which the President sought to convey has, nevertheless, been made, and thus the object of the utterance has been accomplished. It will make no difference that the President attacked the so-called lobby which disagreed with him and carefully refrained from mentioning the fact that there were two lobbies at work. The one which was in harmony with him was numerous, industrious, and insidious. Some few people with reasoning minds and who know the facts will give consideration to this side of the question, but the great mass will have the President's statement emphasized in their minds and all the rest will go for naught.

One wonders, also, what there is so perfect about the figures in the tariff bill that any effort to change them is a sacrilege. It might add to the gayety of nations if the senatorial investigators would summon Mr. Underwood and his colleagues of the Ways and Means Committee and question them as to the reasons or influences which led them to decide upon certain schedules, and especially what conferences they had, private or public, with persons interested in the free sugar propaganda. They certainly ought to be heard, just as every manufacturer and producer has the right to explain why he sought to protect himself from threatened destruction.

Modern Methods of Lobbying.

It is a hopeful sign of the times when publicity is the agency most used to accomplish desired results in legislation.

In fact, the modern method of lobbying is not only legitimate, but praiseworthy. Nobody uttered a word of protest when in the furtherance of a crusade to secure the purchase of Jefferson's home by the government, the newspapers were filled with paid advertisements explaining why such action should be taken. In addition to this, meetings were held to create public sentiment, Congressmen were personally interviewed, and beautiful pictures of Monticello were generously distributed. Other movements, social, economic, and industrial, do not hesitate to utilize publicity to accomplish their ends. It has come to be an acknowledged fact that no effort, no matter how commendable, can become effective until popular sentiment has been aroused in its behalf. There is an association of upifters, whose aims are certainly praiseworthy, who maintain in Washington a bureau which swamps Congressmen with letters and literature, and whose representative could not hope to make any headway in advancing the cause of reform if he were not active, both in writing and in speech. It has become customary for all organizations, which have a national purpose, to establish headquarters here with the expressed intent of being close to Congress. Neither dishonest nor illegitimate methods are employed, but if a misstatement is made upon the floor of the Senate or House an effort is immediately made to correct it, while adverse arguments are controverted. Even when purely material interests are involved, nobody can blame those who are affected for presenting their side of the case as earnestly and emphatically as possible. When Congress becomes so high and mighty that it cannot listen to the appeal of any citizen, rich or poor, great or humble, this government might just as well go out of business.

Reprehensible Practices Abandoned.

Conditions many years ago were most reprehensible. In the period immediately following the civil war, when the public conscience had become callous, there were lobbies of the worst kind in Washington. In a book published forty years ago, entitled "Washington Inside and Out," George Alfred Townsend, a well-known newspaper correspondent, narrated instances of flagrant lobbying, which would not be tolerated now. Those were the days of Sam Ward and Ben Holliday and the Sutro tunnel and the Credit Mobilier and the French spoliation claims. In those days, too, a manufacturer of firearms, who sought to secure an extension of his patents, thought nothing of renting an entire mansion for entertainments, which were not always of the most moral character. Then women whose reputations were not at all doubtful were regularly employed as lobbyists by unscrupulous men who were engaged in foisting stupendous schemes of graft upon the government. In later days poker games, in which certain influential Senators and Representatives happened to win large sums, were more or less common, while the operation, known as "rigging the stock market," whereby stocks were manipulated for the benefit of a favored few, was also employed.

But those days have passed. For twenty years there has been no lobby scandal in Washington. Even the once powerful railroad lobby has disappeared. The abolition of passes and the creation of the Interstate Commerce Commission ended its unsavory career. Occasionally, of course, there is even now an effort to secure dishonest legislation, but the open and flagrant improprieties are no more. As long as human nature remains unchanged there will be dishonesty and corrupt practice, but these have been reduced to a minimum, so far as Congressional legislation is concerned.

The Effect Upon the Country.

Among those who desire to think evil, even when no evil exists, the declaration of the Senate committee that there has been no corrupt use of money will have no effect whatever. The report will be regarded as nothing more or less than a whitewash, and the impression already made upon the public mind will remain.

To this extent the President will benefit politically. He will be regarded more than ever as a man of honesty and courage. The advocates of pure government, who are growing mightily in numbers, will hail him with delight. Much confidence is already placed upon his spoken word, and when he publicly declares that the elements which oppose him are to be condemned, he will find many supporters. The end, however, is not yet. The tariff law, when enacted, must stand the test of actual administration, and the men who are now appealing for some modification of the schedules may have occasion to assert, even amid sackcloth and ashes, that when they sought self-preservation they were not wholly in the wrong.

That "Spelling Bee."

The members of the National Press Club, that is, the Washington correspondents, lived up to the tradition of their profession when they lost the great "spelling bee" with the Senators and Representatives. This tradition—right or wrong—is that, were it not for the "infallibility," and especially the "diligence" of the printers and proofreaders, the average newspaper would look like the outpourings of a committee of school-teachers, so notoriously weak are they supposed to be as disciples of Noah Webster.

Our statesmen, on the other hand, as is generally known to all Americans, as a rule are recruited from the chair of English of the country academy or the hamlet college. Besides, the wise lawgivers who participated in this all-absorbing match were older than the newspaper men, and the products of an era in our national history when the "spelling bee" was a real—yea, a valuable—institution, which flourished prior to the routine courses in our public schools, of which the present younger generation is the victim.

We were satisfied even before entering the inferno, that in any competition of this kind the man of fifty or more years would easily demonstrate his superiority over his rival of about twenty-five or thirty, who has been educated by the use of our modern "simplified" methods, which sacrifice proficiency to glitter.

But there was plenty of humor, and it bubbled over occasionally with a vengeance. Was there ever anything more appropriate than to see Senator Miles Poindexter master the "difficult" words, "progressive" and "moose," but fell down on so easy a thing as "hydrocephalus?" Yes; and there were others! We are almost persuaded to exclaim (with our sincere apologies to Alexander the Great) "Were Mr. Houston not so successful a Secretary of Agriculture, he ought to have been a preceptor of old-fashioned spelling bee classes."

Mr. McAdoo and the Customs.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo has written a letter to Senator Clarke of Arkansas, chairman of the Committee on Commerce, suggesting that the proposed reorganization of the customs be postponed until January 1, 1914. The suggestion of Secretary McAdoo is accompanied with recommendations which, if carried out, will tend to clear up a question of legality that has arisen in connection with the so-called Curtis plan.

The proposed reorganization has been made the target of three bills in Congress. One would kill it outright, another would postpone action for two years, and a third would modify the plan in some particulars to the satisfaction of certain Congressmen. Congress would be secretly hostile to reform in the customs service, however desirable it might be as an economic proposition.

During the Taft administration the Treasury Department proposed to abolish all collectorships, except one in practically every State, and to make each port subordinate to one central port. The plan was blocked by members of Congress protesting against any changes in their own territory. They believed it to be in the interest of economy and efficiency, but it had one little flaw: It split things wrong in their own States. The protest became so vociferous that President Taft gave a hearing to the Congressional critics, but yielded only at one point. Senator Dillingham of Vermont convinced him that the Green Mountains so divided his home State that the people could not get from the east to the west, and vice versa, except in aeroplanes, and Senator Dillingham was allowed two collectors. Senator Fletcher of Florida, author of the bill to lay the whole matter over for two years, made out a pretty good case, in point of geography, but his protest was overruled.

In assenting to a postponement for six months, Secretary McAdoo has recognized the reasonableness of some criticisms of the plan, and probably a few admitted errors will be corrected, if Congress permits the department to make the changes, although it is not intended to reopen the whole case to attack from Congressmen. Congress has more to lose than to gain by the postponement, while the plan has nothing to lose and something to gain by a slight delay.

An exchange thinks the Chicago man who lived a double life for eight years and supported two families on $12 a week is a financial genius. He is not. But the reporter who started the story is some reporter.

It would be too bad if Turkey should have to intervene between the Balkan allies.

The new edition of the Constitution with the seventeenth amendment added will not be among the season's best sellers.

Wonder who looks after the babies in England?

STATESMEN—REAL AND NEAR

By FRED C. KELLY

When Representative Albert Johnson of Washington carcoled into town to enter Congress, a few days ago, he brought with him, among other chattels, a dress suit.

Well, what of it, you inquire. A great many newly arrived Congressmen maintain dress suits and think next to nothing of it. But the point is that there was a time when Johnson was a newcomer in Washington and did not own a dress suit. This story goes back to the non-dress-suit period of our hero's life.

Johnson came here and entered the world of letters by getting a job as police reporter on a Washington morning paper—that is, he had determined to follow journalistic pursuits, as the little home paper expressed it, and accepted a lucrative position.

Well, after a few months of going to the cashier's window every Saturday and letting the golden salary stream play into his lap, he had saved up a great deal of money, and he began to think of costly possessions, such as broadcloth clothes for evening wear. He priced such outfits, found that he lacked only a few weeks' savings, and he determined to take the step.

At that juncture William Wolff Smith had an idea. Smith, now a well-known Washington correspondent, was Johnson's roommate. Smith also had been thinking for some months of concentering his entire fortune in a set of half-after-six clothes. When he heard that Johnson also had social aspirations, his bright idea rolled out of the slot.

Smith's notion was that inasmuch as there was only twenty or thirty pounds difference in their weight it would be the height of prodigality to buy two dress suits, when one would be the greatest of plenty.

"You know one only wears them in the evening, anyhow," Smith pointed out, "and you have only one night off a week. We'll buy the suit on a co-operative plan, each taking 50 per cent of the stock and any time you want to wear it you can have it and welcome."

So it was arranged. In order to have everything perfectly fair, the tailor made the suit too loose for Smith and too tight for Johnson. Smith, however, was fascinated with the garb and entered upon a dizzy round of social activity.

Now, Johnson had made the acquaintance, in some way, of Mrs. Stewart, a stately woman, the wife of Senator Stewart of Nevada, and prominent socially. She had admired Johnson for his evident ability, and one night when she was giving a big formal reception, she called up his paper to say that she had her heart set on Johnson writing the account of it.

Thus it befell that Johnson got a chance to try out the co-operative dress suit. Smith was a little vexed as he had planned to wear it to a gathering of heiresses that night. Besides the evening suit, Johnson also wore a new and costly pair of patent leather shoes. He was in an optimistic mood when he bought them and believed that he could be comfortable in a slightly smaller sized shoe than nature had in mind for him when his feet were designed.

A sad-eyed butler let him into the Stewart mansion. Mrs. Stewart came forward with much cordiality to greet him. He stepped toward her, but his shoes were not the anti-skid kind, and they did not assimilate with the floor. The floor started to rear up and strike the defenseless Johnson, and he clutched at a support which chanced to be a massive and high priced vase—pronounced vawze—containing a huge palm. This was surrounded by smaller palms and ferns and flowers. All went down with Johnson. Everything was a total loss, including his dress suit, which split with a sort of low wail.

All was a blank to Johnson after that until he found himself in the street.

That was twenty years ago, but to this day Johnson grows pale and nervous at the thought of entering formal society. However, he now owns a dress suit in his own name.

Representative Stephens of California explains the Japanese situation in this way: "Don't you remember," he says, "how when you were a little kid, if you asked your mother for an apple and then a pear, and then a peach, and she kept refusing you, you might finally ask for a piece of pie and get it? After a series of refusals she felt that she ought to relent, and give you what you asked for. It's the same way with the Japanese over this California thing. They don't expect to get any concessions on the matter now at issue, but feel, as I figure it out, that by making a little stir now, they will be in a better position to get something more important that they may want later on."

Senator La Follette, riding home on the car not long ago, engaged in conversation with an Irishman who said he had always been a La Follette shouter. They took up a number of learned topics, La Follette doing the talking and the Irishman the listening.

"I believe the time's coming," remarked La Follettee, "when men will study the science of governing cities and those who have mastered the subject will command high salaries, with various cities bidding for their services."

"Yes, I wouldn't doubt it," said the Irishman. "But I'll bet you if we ever have colleges for training Mayors and such things, George B. Cox and Charlie Murphy and a lot of guys like that will start correspondence schools right off."

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

THE EARLY VACATION.

I traveled off on pleasure bent; the time
was early June.
Straight to a big hotel I went upon a
sandy dune.
I thought of strolling with some girl, of
golfing joys sublime,
And all the other giddy whirl of gay vacation time.

They put me in a hall bedroom at thirty
bones per week;
The pesky room was like a tomb, and
things outside were bleak.
Two waiters only were at work; they
fairly seemed to creep.
Besides them, there was but one clerk,
and he was half asleep.

I was a sad and solemn guest, in that big
place alone.
'Twas dreary as a last year's nest,
whence all the birds had flown.
The sea breeze had a piercing nip; cold
were those sand dunes brown.
I stayed two days, then packed my grip
and beat it back to town.

The Best Time.

"What are the duties of a steering committee in Congress?"

"To get a lot of legislation through while the Washington ball team is on the road."

Make Them Wipe Their Feet.

"Why don't you join in cleaning up our fair city?"

"What's the use? The suburbanites will track mud right into town again."

Grateful Later.

"You seem to have a high regard for Wombat."

"He did me a great favor once."

"What was that?"

"He refused to publish a book I had written."

A Slow Fellow.

She was a most disdainful miss;
He got a freezing look.
She told him he could have one kiss,
And one was all he took.

A Gulf Between Them.

"She wanted to know if I smoked, drank, or chewed."

"Well, you could easily satisfy her on those points. When is the engagement to be announced?"

"Never. She discards from strength at bridge, and I consider it foolishness to discard from anything but weakness."

Too Trying.

"Then you don't like these afternoon teas?"

"Too rough on the nerves. Here's the situation: I gotta hold a sandwich in my mouth, a plate of cake in one hand, a cup of tea in the other, and nothing to set anything on but a grand piano."

Says the Old Grouch.

It's the people who have no children who like to write poems about 'em.

Not 35,000 Statesmen.

From the New York Evening Post.

It is estimated by the Constantinople correspondent of the London Times that 35,000 human beings have perished by massacre during the Balkan conflict; not slain in battle, but slaughtered in the course of irregular fighting or simply butchered by a blood-mad soldiery. These massacres were foreseen by statesmen on both sides; yet they were not allowed to stand in the way of the plans formulated by such statesmen. After this, what use is there of speaking of panics and idle factories? All that a man has will be give for his life. If the prospect of being shot down on his own doorstep, or of seeing his wife and children slaughtered, is no deterrent of war to a man when once the battle lust has seized upon him, how can the fear of seeing his shop or his harvest go to ruin affect him? No, if the demon of war is to be exorcised, it will be done by no appeal to prudential considerations, but by insistence upon the horrors of war as expressed in terms of human life, of the evil passions let loose, of the resulting oppression of the weak by the strong, of the harm inflicted on the highest ideals of the race.

In nineteen months the number of special institutions that teach agriculture in the United States has increased from 645 to 573, or more than 60 per cent.

COMPULSORY VOTING.

From the Springfield Union.

It will be interesting to see whether the compulsory voting bill passed by the Utah Senate will stand the test of constitutionality if it passes the lower house and is signed by the Governor. This measure provides that every citizen who is eligible to vote but does not exercise that privilege shall be assessed a yearly poll tax of $2. Similar measures have been proposed in other States, but have met with opposition on various grounds, chiefly constitutional. But, aside from the constitutional objection, it is seriously to be questioned whether it is worth while to compel an indifferent citizen to exercise the voting franchise. It is to be doubted that the man who is not interested enough to vote without compulsion would exercise intelligence and discrimination if compelled to vote. Moreover, it would be difficult to enforce a compulsory voting law with fairness and impartiality. Many men would have reasonable excuses for not voting, and others could invent plausible reasons. Rather than penalize a man for not voting it would seem to be a better plan to appeal to his civic pride and try to arouse in him a sense of the duties and obligations of citizenship that would lead him to take an active interest in affairs of government.

The Curse of Murder.

From the Menard Messenger.

The Houston Post last week published an able editorial on murders and pointed out some means to decrease the number. It is certain that something is wrong in a country so highly civilized as is the United States that is disgraced with so many murders, and while it is proper that the accused should always have a fair trial, it has almost reached the point where the people understand a fair trial to mean an acquittal. The Fort Worth Record, in a recent editorial pointed out one of the most common causes for murderers going free—that of the jury considering only the case at the bar, without regard to the welfare of society and as if it were the first and last murder to occur, and feeling that the defendant has already suffered enough for his crime allowing sentiment to play an important part in their verdict, believing, doubtless, that the accused, warned by his experience, will settle down to a proper and useful life, providing for those who are dependent upon him. This is a mistaken idea of the law, which is intended, not to punish the criminal, but to prevent crime. If it were possible to know that a man guilty of crime would never be guilty again, and that releasing him would not have a bad effect upon others, it would certainly be humane and proper to give him freedom, but every time a guilty man is acquitted of murder the effect is as a license to others criminally inclined. Court procedure should be simplified to the extent that an able judge can try a criminal case without being almost certain of committing error, and every possible means should be used to bring all murderers to speedy justice, being careful, of course, that the rights of the citizen are in no way taken from him.

Armless Girl Does Things.

From Popular Mechanics Magazine.

A remarkable demonstration of the control the mind has over the body is provided by Miss Kittie M. Smith, an armless Chicago girl, who uses her feet to do the things the average person accomplishes with the hands. So adept has Miss Smith become that she makes cabinets, bookcases, desks, and like furniture, using with skill all the necessary tools, such as saws, chisels, planes, &c. In nailing, however, she uses a hatchet instead of hammer, as the shape of the former is better adapted for a tight clutch between the toes. Miss Smith also sketches with pen and pencil, does excellent needlework, and uses a typewriter for her correspondence. The daily task of making a toilet, including brushing her teeth and washing her face, is done with comparative ease. She is also an adept gardener, using all ordinary implements with her toes in the garden of the home for disabled children which she has founded at Maywood, a Chicago suburb.

More Men in Line.

From the Brooklyn Standard.

The annual suffrage parade has definitely taken its place with New York's many side attractions. It can almost be said to have become a fixed event, and a very interesting and important one. This year's was larger and viewed by more people than any previous affair in this city, and possibly in all the world. The increased number of men in line was a significant feature, for their presence in a way marks the progress which the cause is making among those who have the power to give or withhold the ballot.

Court Gossip of Interesting Events on Two Continents

The Prince Regent of Bavaria's doughty words at the military banquet following the review of his army are set to the same key as the speeches of Conservatives in the Reichstag in favor of the army bill (or army augmentation bill), presented to that Parliament. He is now well over sixty, father of ten children, and husband of the great Modena heiress, whom a handful of English Jacobites revere as their "Queen Mary III."

The Prince Regent ought to command esteem for declining the title of King, still borne by his cousin, the insane Otto. But perhaps he would have done better at the banquet in not saying: "Should the Bavarian army again have to measure itself with the enemy, an event for which we must always be ready, I doubt not that it will do honor to its fatherland and colors."

Prince Hohenlohe, in his memoirs, speaks of his disgust at the beery celebration of Sedan at Munich in the grounds beneath the buildings in which wounded French soldiers were dying. They could hear the "hochs" and war songs of revelers glutted with victuals and excited by drink. A well-known circumstance of the terrible year of 1870 is that hardly any of the German prisoners of war at Pau (the chief place of captivity) were any other than the blue-sky Bavarian uniform.

The Bazeilles atrocities also must be laid to the charge of the Bavarians. I am under the impression that they were under the command of the prince (Otto), in whose stead the Regent of Bavaria now rules. But the former soon showed such decided symptoms of cerebral derangement, from which he still suffers, that the Prussian crown prince had to send him back to Bavaria under close guard as demented. There were no worse behaved troops than the Bavarians. The Prussians, under their crown prince, "Unser Fritz," and Friedrich Karl, behaved extremely well, except in the firing of the St. Cloud Palace—that is, they fired it maliciously. The Wurtembergers also were well disciplined and very humane.

A marriage is to be arranged between the hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz and Princess Olga of Brunswick-Lueneburg, youngest and only unmarried daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland. There is a keen anxiety in the Grand Ducal family to see the hereditary Grand Duke married, as he is an only son, and there is no other heir to the throne. He was born in June, 1882, and is a great-grandson of the late Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, through the Grand Duchess Augusta.

The reigning Grand Duke, George Adolphus, was born in July, 1848. He is married to Princess Elizabeth of Anhalt, sister of the Duke of Anhalt-Dessau. Last year there were repeated announcements that the hereditary Grand Duke was to be betrothed to Princess Victoria Luise of Prussia, who last month married the bride's-to-be brother.

The only other male members of the Grand Ducal family are the two sons of Duke George, a younger brother of the late Grand Duke, who settled in Russia, in 1851, when he married Grand Duchess Catherine, daughter of the Grand Duke Michael Pavlovitch, younger brother of the Emperor Alexander I and Nicholas I, and a great heiress. Duke George died in 1876. His elder son, Duke George Alexander, in 1900, contracted a morganatic marriage, the title of Countess of Carlow being conferred upon his wife. He is thus excluded from the succession. The younger son, Duke Karl Michael, who is now fifty, is unmarried. They have spent all their lives in Russia.

The marriage of Archduchess Isabella Maria, of Austria, and Prince George, of Bavaria, has been annulled by papal decree. The Archduchess is one of the daughters of Archduke Friedrich, who is the richest member of the Hapsburg family, as he inherited the immense and valuable estates of the Archduke Albert. The Archduke is a brother of the Queen Dowager, of Spain, and his wife is a daughter of the late Duke of Croy. He visited England some years ago as the representative of Emperor Francis Joseph.

Prince George is the eldest son of Prince Leopold of Bavaria, and his mother is the Archduchess Gisela, oldest daughter of Emperor Franz Josef.

The King and Queen of Denmark have returned to Copenhagen from their visit to the Mecklenburg relatives, the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess at Schwerin. The Grand Duke is the only brother of the Queen of Denmark and the Grand Duchess is the second daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland. The Schloss at Schwerin is an immense edifice of four stories, built in the French Chateau style, and it stands upon an island. It includes a church, a large armory (Zeughaus), and a handsome suite of state apartments. Its erection was begun in 1845, and it was finished in 1858, on the site of a castle which dates from 1256 and was occupied by an outpost of the Ritter of Mairenburg. The new building is said to have cost 10,000,000 marks to erect.

The death of Sir Tatton Sykes, at the age of eighty-seven, removes a figure once well known in English society. His two hobbies, the Sledmere Stud and church restoration, brought him in contact with two very different worlds, in both of which he was something of a personage. Although he was a very strong high churchman, his interest in church restoration, primarily at least, was of the aesthetic order.

He was greatly struck, during his travels, by a votive church built on the outskirts of Vienna by the Emperor Franz Josef. He approached the architect and asked him to build an exact replica. The architect replied that it could not be done without the leave of the Emperor, who consented on condition that the building should be dedicated to the service of the Roman Catholic faith. Sir Tatton decided, as did Henri IV at Paris, that so beautiful a house was worth a mass. Cardinal Manning then was approached, but the negotiations somehow fell through.

Sir Tatton lived on terms of friendly separation from his wife, a lady of considerable accomplishments, but erratic habits and temperament, and hardly suited for running in double harness. On his side also Sir Tatton was a trifle eccentric. It is said that one of his peculiarities was to wear seven very thin silk coats, one on top of the other. Not many guard their health so carefully as Sir Tatton Sykes, who in winter wore five or six coats when out riding, and shed some of them when he became warmer.

Prince Poutiatkine, however, took even stronger precautions against illness. If there was a touch of cold in the air, he had fires lit in his grounds, before venturing to stroll in them. His waistcoats were made in two separate pieces joined at the sides by buttons, so that he could take them off or put additional ones on without removing his coat. If caught in a shower he sheltered himself with an umbrella nearly two feet wide which came down below his waist and was pierced with little windows. In very hot weather the prince wore boots coated within as a protection against mad dogs and carried sponges soaked with vinegar in his shirt front to ward off unpleasant smells.

In saying at Glascow during one of his anti-German speeches that he had received the highest possible honors at the hands of the German Emperor, Lord Roberts, the British field marshal, was alluding, of course, to the Black Eagle, highest of Prussian decorations, corresponding to the British Garter, which was conferred upon him on his return from the Boer war as act of favor which caused a great outcry at the time among the Chauvinists at Berlin. There is only one other English man, outside the royal family, on whom the same distinction has been bestowed, and that is Sir Frank Lascelles, who on quitting the British embassy at Berlin, received this highest mark of imperial favor in acknowledgement of his efforts in the cause of a better understanding between the two countries.

FLANEUR.

COUNTRY CLUBS

By GEORGE FITCH,
Author of "At Good Old Siwash."

A country club is an institution invented for the purpose of letting city people get out into the country without bothering the farmers.

Country clubs are built for lovers of nature and contain all sorts of conveniences for enabling them to soak themselves in bucolic bliss, including grill rooms, bars, golf courses, piano players, and table d'hote dinners. With the aid of these and other comforts a man can sit in the rathskellar of a country club and drink in the pure fresh air and other things until the last car leaves for the city. People who have had a long course in country clubs become so familiar with the joycus life of the rural districts that they can distinguish between the turkey trot and Tango dances by ear, and distinguish a bull frog from a bull calf with the skill of an old agriculturalist.

Country club members are divided roughly into two classes—those who sow golf balls on the hill sides and those who sow wild oats in the grill room. These crops are not noticed in the agricultural reports but they are quite extensive, nevertheless. The man who sows $197 worth of golf balls in a 150-acre meadow, harvests a pair of brown forearms in the gentle autumn, and the man who gives his earnest and undivided attention to the untamed oats crops, harvests the usual results but in a more stylish and exclusive manner, drawing a large and fashionable audience when the judge grants the decree.

Since the automobile has become prevalent country clubs have increased enormously in numbers, and the town which does not now possess one is looked upon with scorn, even by rural communities.

To enjoy nature in a country club a member should not put on overalls and a straw hat as large as a city voting precinct. To do so would excite as much unfavorable comment as if he were to be caught milking a cow. White flannel

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suits and Paris clothes together with a haughty and detached air, eked out when necessary with a monacle and lorgnette, secure the best results in these delightful rural retreats, and a long line of well selected ancestors count for more on the country club circuit than the unpoetic housed cattle on a thousand hills.